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**CLAIMS:** *The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.*

1. (ORIGINAL) An application control system for a distributed computer system, including: at least one node, each node including node controller means for starting, stopping and detecting a failure of a process on the node; a plurality of application controllers wherein: each application controller includes control means for managing at least one application according to an execution model; and a first application controller including management means for managing a different type of software from a second application controller; and an execution controller, the execution controller including execution control means for maintaining status information of processes started by the node controller executing on the at least one node and maintaining status and availability information of the at least one node.

2. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 1, including a plurality of nodes and wherein the execution controller means include means for maintaining status and availability information of the plurality of nodes.

3. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 1, including application controller means for initiating the creation of a container process.

4. (ORIGINAL) An application control system for a distributed computer system, including: at least one node, each node including a node controller configured to start, stop and detect a failure of a process on the node; a plurality of application controllers wherein: each application controller is configured to manage at least one application according to an execution model; and a first application controller configured to manage applications according to an execution model that is different from the execution model of the applications managed by a second application controller; and an execution controller, the execution controller configured to: maintain status information of processes started by the node controller executing on the at least one node; and maintain status and availability information of the at least one node.

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5. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 4, including a plurality of nodes and wherein the execution controller maintains status and availability information of the plurality of nodes.

6. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein a first application controller is on a first node and a second application controller is on a second node.

7. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein the execution controller is on a node separate from any application controller.

8. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein the execution controller is replicated on a plurality of nodes.

9. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein at least one application controller is replicated on a plurality of nodes.

10. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein at least one application controller includes logic configured to request the execution controller to start a process.

11. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 10, wherein the execution controller includes logic configured to request the node controller to start a process.

12. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein the execution controller includes logic configured to request the node controller to start a process.

13. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 4, wherein an application controller includes logic configured to initiate the creation of a container process.

14. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 13, wherein the container process initiated by the application controller includes container controller logic configured to create at least one

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execution module.

15. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 14, wherein the logic to initiate the creation of a container process includes logic configured to send a message to the execution controller to cause the execution controller to inform the node controller to start the container process.

16. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 14, wherein the container process includes a first execution module from a first application and a second execution module from a second application.

17. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 14, wherein the container processes include a Java Virtual Machine and the execution units include Java classes.

18. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 14, wherein the container processes include an Enterprise JavaBeans Container class and the execution modules include Enterprise JavaBeans.

19. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein the logic used by the execution controller to maintain status information of processes and maintain status and availability information of the nodes includes Enterprise JavaBeans.

20. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein the at least one application controller includes Enterprise JavaBeans.

21. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein the application controllers include distribution management logic to use distribution policy information as input and to output distribution information based on the distribution policy information.

22. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the application controller includes logic configured to invoke the distribution management logic upon at least one of a start

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of an application, a node failure, a process failure, a application failure, a node overload, and an addition of a node.

23. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the distribution information of the distribution management logic includes at least one of: the number of container processes for an application, the nodes on which each container process is located, the number of execution modules to create; the assignment of execution modules to container processes; and the replication of execution modules.

24. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 23, wherein the application controllers include logic configured to retrieve distribution policy information for an application from an application definition.

25. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 23, wherein the application controllers include logic configured to receive distribution policy information for an application from a system administrator.

26. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 23, wherein the application controllers include logic configured to receive distribution policy information for an application from a configuration file.

27. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the distribution management logic is loaded from an application definition.

28. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the distribution management logic is loaded from a file separate from the application controller.

29. (ORIGINAL) The application control system of claim 5, wherein a first application controller creates container processes only on a first node group.

30. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the execution controller includes logic

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configured to send a node failure notification message to each application controller with an application executing on a node upon a failure of the node.

31. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein logic in a first node is configured to determine if the node including the execution module failed and upon such a determination the logic is configured to initiate an execution controller in the first node.

32. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the execution controller includes logic configured to send a process failure notification message to the application controller which initiated the creation of the failed process upon a failure of the process.

33. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the execution controller includes logic configured to send a process failure notification message to the application controller which initiated the creation of the failed process upon receipt of a process failure notification message from the node controller.

34. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5, wherein at least one application controller manages a plurality of applications.

35. (WITHDRAWN) An application control system on a distributed computer system, including: at least two nodes; an application including at least one active execution module and at least one backup execution module; at least two container processes each including at least one execution module; and application controller logic wherein the application controller logic is configured to manage replication of an active execution module.

36. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 35, wherein the application controller logic includes distribution management logic configured to use distribution policy information as input and to output locations for at least one active and at least one backup execution module based on the distribution policy information.

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37. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 36, wherein the application controller logic includes logic configured to invoke the distribution management logic upon at least one of a start of an application, a node failure, a process failure, an application failure, a node overload, and an addition of a node.

38. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 36, wherein the application controller logic includes a plurality of distribution management logics.

39. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 36, wherein the output of the distribution management logic includes at least one of: the number of container processes for an application, the nodes on which each container process is located, the number of execution modules to create; the assignment of execution modules to container processes; and the replication of execution modules.

40. (WITHDRAWN) An application control system for a distributed computer system, including: an application definition file including a definition of at least one execution module; and an application controller module including distribution manager logic configured to distribute execution modules among a plurality of nodes based on node status information and replication constraint information.

41. (WITHDRAWN) An application control system for a distributed computer system, including: an application definition file including a definition of at least one execution module; and an application controller module including distribution manager logic configured to distribute container processes among a plurality of nodes and to distribute execution modules among the container processes based on at least two of node status information, container process status information and distribution policy information.

42. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 41, wherein the distribution policy information is retrieved from a policy file.

43. (WITHDRAWN) The system of claim 42, wherein the policy file is located within